



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

OCT 26 2015

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

WC-15J

CERTIFIED MAIL 7014 2870 0001 9580 8891
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Rick Ryfa
Town Council President
111 North Broad Street
Griffith, Indiana 46319-2294

Subject: Notice of Violation
Pursuant to Docket No. V-W-12-AO-08

Dear Mr. Ryfa:

On February 10, 2012, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued Administrative Order V-W-12-AO-08. The order required, among other things, a complete, approvable, alternatives analysis with a schedule to eliminate the Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) occurring in the Town's collection system pursuant to Paragraph 22 of the Order. Griffith is in violation of this requirement in Administrative Order V-W-12-AO-08.

In response to the Order, Griffith submitted an alternatives analysis on August 14, 2012. EPA requested the town revise the alternatives analysis because the alternatives did not reasonably assure EPA that the alternative chosen would eliminate SSOs. EPA granted an extension until April 20, 2013 to submit a revised alternatives analysis so that the town could work with Hammond Sanitary District and the Town of Highland to determine if a regional approach could be implemented.

In the revised alternative analysis, Griffith proposed alternatives, which were contingent upon measures to be enacted by Hammond. EPA could not assess the practicality and effectiveness of these alternatives that relied on Hammond without having the specifics of the measures Hammond will undertake and a schedule for the completion of the measures. Additionally, Griffith submitted an alternative to construct a 13 million gallon equalization basin. The proposal for the basin did not include a schedule for construction and was not selected as a recommended alternative. In response to the failure of a regional approach alternative, EPA requested the Town submit a recommended alternative and include a schedule for its construction.

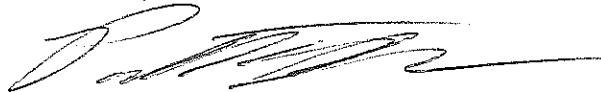
Griffith responded on October 30, 2013, indicated that the proposed alternatives were no longer viable due to the cancellation of Griffiths sewer contract by Hammond. Griffith requested to investigate the feasibility of connecting to the City of Gary's collection system. EPA did not

approve or disapprove of this request. While we encourage communities to coordinate, SSOs are prohibited and must be addressed as soon as possible.

To date, EPA has not received a revised alternatives analysis that includes a recommended alternative and a schedule for its completion in compliance with Paragraph 22 of Administrative Order V-W-12-AO-08. Please submit by November 30, 2015 your recommended alternative and a proposed schedule for its completion in compliance with the Order.

EPA appreciates the cooperation of the Town of Griffith in regards to this ongoing matter. If you have any questions, please contact Don Schwer of my staff, at (312) 353-8752 or schwer.don@epa.gov, or your legal counsel may contact Robert Guenther, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-0566 or guenther.robert@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick F. Kuefler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick F. Kuefler
Chief
Water Enforcement and
Compliance Assurance Branch

cc: Mary Hoover, IDEM
Mary Hollingsworth, IDEM

bcc: AO File
Ryan Bahr
Don Schwer
Keith Middleton
Robert Guenther, C-14J